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Monarchiæ Britannicæ singularis Protectio.

OR, A BRIEF

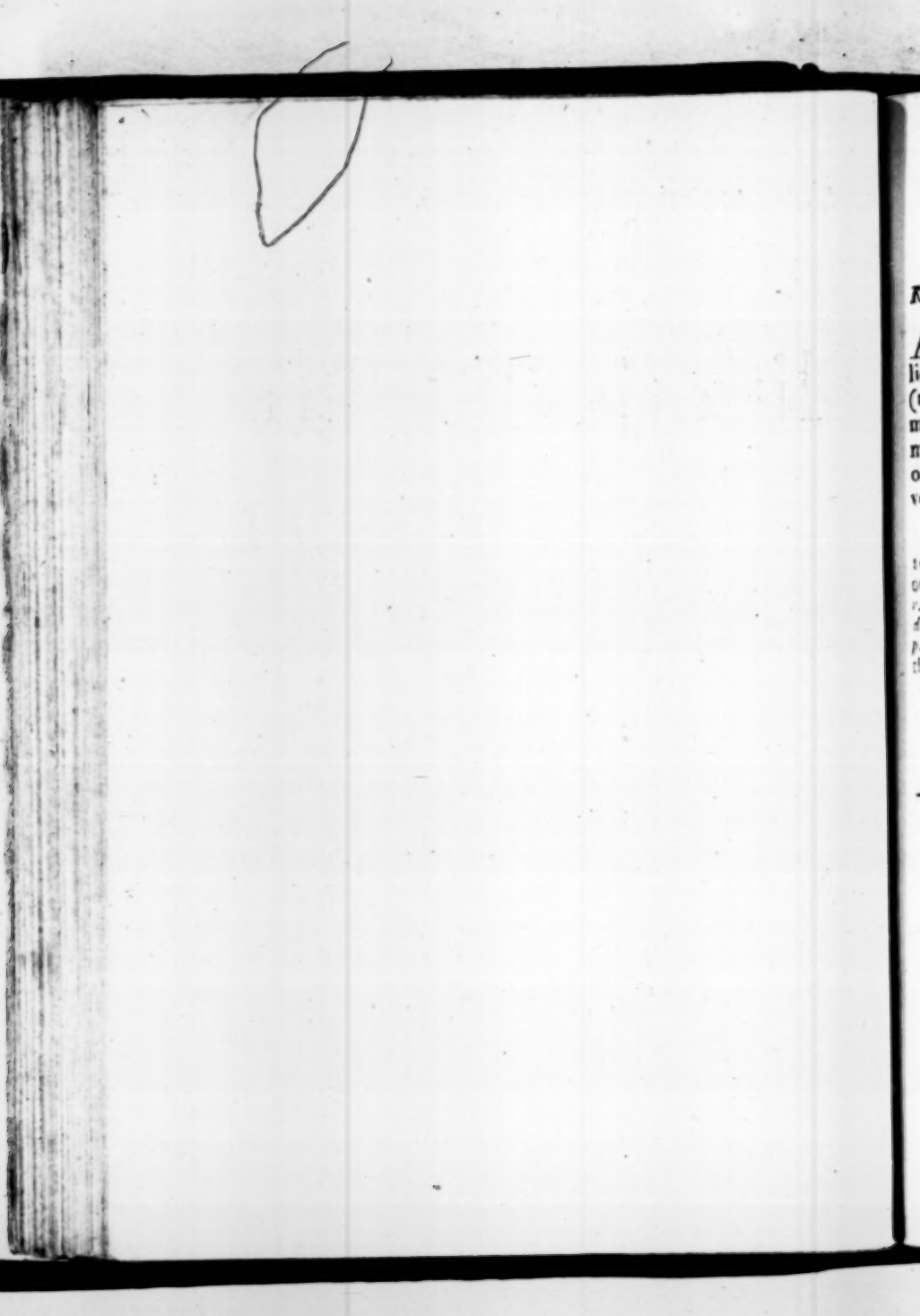
Historicall Essay

Tending to prove
GOD's especial PROVIDENCE
Over the
BRITISH MONARCHY,
AND
More particularly over the Family that
now enjoys the same.

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L O N D O N,

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Reader,

AMong the manifold Discouragements, which have so long prorogued, and had well nigh altogether stopped the Publication of this Treatise; one is, the multitude of *Errata's* (too many for so small a Pamphlet) it is accompanied withall, most of which thou shalt find here amended; and for the remainder, as mis-placing or omitting of Comma's, and some other few literal mistakes, I leave them to thy Candid and favourable correction.

*Page. 2. line 30. for Normandy read Norway. p. 6. l. 2. for Prince r. King. p. 10. l. 27. dele and. p. 12. l. 23. dele too. l. 24. for nad r. and. p. 13. l. 14. for my r. our. p. 22. l. 14. dele his. p. 33. l. 15. r. though not. l. 19. dele Sister. p. 35. l. 25. r. beginner. p. 36. l. 11. for as yet r. as if. p. 43. l. 23. for yet r. if. p. 44. l. 21. dele been. p. 46. l. 1. for by r. buy. p. 48. l. 29. r. unto. for Practisers r. Practises. p. 51. l. 12. r. But *Bruse* urging. l. 18. r. upon the Popes. p. 53. l. 26. add *Mary* the Daughter and Heir of *James* the fifth. p. 55. l. 10. for divert r. direct.*



It is observed by *Edmond Howes* a diligent Compiler of our Countries Annals, That in this Island there hath happened five remarkable alterations, and each of them alwayes about the period or revolution of five hundred years, whereof in his Historical Preface, he gives this insuing ac-

count.

1. The first alteration, sayes he, was presently upon the death of *Gorboduc*, seventeenth in descent from *Brute*, Founder, according to him, of the British Monarchy. This *Gorboduc* had caused his youngest Son *Porrex* to be joyntly crowned with his eldest Son *Ferrex*: These two fall at difference among themselves; the younger kills the elder, him the Mother, her the Multitude, hence Civil Wars; at length *Malmutius Dunwallo* Duke of *Cornwall*, having subdued all Competitors, translates the Kingdom to another line, which continues without any memorable interruption, untill

2. The second grand alteration, in the Reign of *Cassibeline*, forty fourth Successor of *Malmutius*, begun by the invasion of *Iulius Caesar*, General of the Romans in *Gaule*, but not perfected before *Claudius* the Emperors time, from which date the *Æra* or computation of the Romans absolute Dominion here is to commence, whose departure, recalled by their Domestick dissensions, and Forein inundations, carrying with them also the ablest

of the Britains , was the occasion of

3. The third famous alteration; for the Britains bereaved of their own proper strength; and destitute of the accustomed aid of their Champions the Romans, were necessitated to implore the assistance of the Saxons, a people of *Germany*, against the Picts and Scots, who grievously infested the Northern borders.

To these Saxons *Vortigern*, the late elected King, an Author of these Strangers employment, in contemplation of their service, most improvidently allots, first the Isle of *Thannet*, then all *Kent*, afterwards more to inhabit; besides his marriage with *Romena* the Daughter of *Hengist*, one of their principal leaders, gave them so firm a footing, that they not only could not be removed, but even forced their Landlords the Britains into the least, most desert, and most mountainous parts, whilst these new intruding guests enjoy the greatest, the best, and richest share, which they portioned into an Heptarchy, or seven petty Principalities, who contending among themselves for superiority, and wearying one another with mutual discord, administered opportunity unto

4. The fourth, and indeed a twofold alteration, (but in regard of its immediate connexion is reckoned but as one) first by the Danes, a people likewise of *Germany*, who after many conflicts obtained the Sovereignty, but did not long retain the same. But the second (which took its original almost, where the other determined) and chiefest mutation, both for its continuance and universality, was that by the Normans, a Nation primarily issued out of *Normandy*, but then possessing the South of *France*, who introduced a general innovation in all things but Religion, which also suffered its vicissitude or turn in

5. The fifth and last alteration under *Henry* the eighth, who gave the first blow unto it, by his withdrawing his obedi-

obedience from the Romish Sea, in whose communion *England* had persevered since its first conversion, and by suppressing Monasteries who were the main Pillars and Supporters thereof. But his Son *Edward* the sixth, proceeds further to the abolition of the Rites and Doctrine of that Church, which were yet again restored by his Sister *Mary*, and again excluded by her Sister *Elizabeth*, who was therein imitated by her Successour, *James*, conjoyner of the two separated Kingdoms, *England*, and *Scotland*, which our Author makes a parcel of this last alteration, and where he concludes his general History of the several revolutions of this Island, from the first foundation of a Monarchy here, untill the time wherein he wrote.

But since there hath happened another alteration no lesse, if not in some respect more considerable than any of the former, when not only the Person but the Office, not only a King, and that in an unparalleld manner, but even Kingship it self was destroyed, (a design that was never so much as attempted by our Ancestors) and instead thereof, an unheard-of kind of Common-wealth erected, which was soon suppressed by an insolent Usurper, who thought under a different title to have established the whole power to him and his ; But by Gods providence, and the perfidiousnesse of his own Relations, his purpose was defeated, his Son dethroned, a shadow of a Common-wealth retrived, once more dismissed, again revived, and finally dissolved, the old Government renewed, and lawfull Heir recalled; and all this came to passe within the space of twelve years, yea most of it within the circuit of one year, whereof we can only say with the Psalmist, *This is the Lords doings, it is marvelous in our eyes.*

And truly, if we consider things impartially, there is great cause of admiration, that God should not only pre-

serve among us for so many ages a Monarchy, (the best of Regiments in general, and in particular most agreeable to the situation of this Country, and constitution of the people,) but even continue it, maugre all the Plots and policies of men to the contrary, in that very blood and Family, which as far as creditable Genealogy will extend, hath been first known to have been invested there-withall.

For we may safely affirm, that our present King *Charles* the second, (in whose posterity we trust it will remain as long as the Sun and Moon endures) deduces his pedigree in an indisputable line, from all that ever did or could pretend a title or interest to the Crown, which we think can hardly be verified of any Prince besides, this day in the Christian world.

For proof whereof we appeal to such of our Chronicles only as are undoubted and beyond exception. Passing by therefore the Catalogue of British Kings from *Brute* to *Cassibeline*, not as altogether untrue, but as very uncertain; passing by those likewise we find mentioned during the Romans abode here, whose custom it was to permit native Kings indeed in their Conquer'd Provinces, but only as instruments of Tyranny, and wholly depending on the authority of the Empire and its Prefects: We shall take our rise from the Saxons rule, and especially at that time, when from a multiplyed Estate it grew towards an Union; And yet we cannot omit one passage we find Recorded of *Cadwallader* last King of the Britains on this side *Severn*; who at his death prophesied that his Race should recover the Dominion of this Isle again, which was fulfilled in the dayes of King *Henry* the seventh, and more compleatly of King *James*, as will appear when the series and progresse of the Story doth bring us thereunto.

The Saxons, as hath been already hinted, made a

venfold partition of the Land they had wrested from the Britains, but the Kingdom of the West-Saxons (whose first stone was laid by *Cerdic*) did so increase in superstructure, that in the end it overtopped all the rest.

Ina, the fifth descendent of *Cerdic*, was the first advancer of it to this pre-eminency; but he dyed without issue, and the due order of the succession was somewhat disturbed, by the intrusion of four or five one after another, of the Blood-Royal indeed, but not in such a propinquity, as was *Egbert* Nephew but once removed from *Ina*, of whose right and promising forwardnesse, *Britric*, the last of the Usurpers, had so quick a sense, that he contrived the destruction of young *Egbert*: Which to avoid, he was enforced to retire unto the Court of *Offa* King of *Mercia* or *Middle England*, but finding small security there in regard his Enemy had married *Offa*'s daughter, he escapes thence into *France*, whence after the Tyrants death, he returns to the enjoyment of that Kingdome, which had been so long, and so unjustly detained from him.

This Prince (which we the rather note because of the affinity he hath with the Condition of our Sovereign that now is) had by an exiles experience attained such a measure of prudence, and all other perfections, that he much improved the West-Saxon Empire, which was now well near arrived to its Meridian and height, when it suffered a most terrible Eclipse by the interposition of the Danes, who made their first irruption in his predecessors dayes; and though they were valiantly resisted, and frequently repulsed by him and his Successors; yet did they never after cease from afflicting one part or other, till they had reduced the whole to their subjection, in which posture they held it but a little while, as hath before been intimated, and shall be more amply shewed in its due and proper place.

Egbert being dead, *Aethewolph* his Son of a Bishop became a Prince, and though his Education and Profession had rendred him a greater Votary than Warriour, yet did he give the Danes a most memorable overthrow. He had four Sons, who were all Kings in their turns, but the glory of the rest was *Alfred*, the youngest, no lesse famous for Arts than Armes; in the first his Son *Edward* surnamed the Elder, is reported to have been inferiour, but in the last did equal, if not exceed his renowned Father.

This *Edward* often worsted, but could not totally extirpate the Danes, who recruited with fresh supplies from their own Comntry, made daily more and more encroachments upon the already-tired English Nation, whose case at that time especially required some strong prop or stay to sustain and keep up its declining and tottering estate.

And upon this account it was that *Atbelstane* *Edward's* bastard Son, being at full maturity and ripenessse, was preferred before his legitimate one *Edmond* then in minority (the reason also that some succeeding Princes were for some time laid aside) but *Edmond* being now come to Age, after his Brother *Atbelstanes* death (the noblenessse of whose life recompenced the blemish of his birth) was admitted to his Fathers Throne, which he did wisely and courageously manage, but was too soon deprived of it, and his life together, by a villanous Assassinate, in his own house at a festival, whilst he went about to rescue his Sewer from the violence of that barbarous hand.

The more than ordinary hopes conceived of this brave Prince being thus untimely nipped in the bud, his nolesse-deserving Brother *Eldred* was elected King, notwithstanding *Edmond* had left two Sons behind, whose tender years in those troublesome times were thought uncapable of so weighty an imployment.

But

But upon the death of *Eldred*, the Scepter (which is a thing to be taken notice of in precedent and subsequent ruptures of this nature) reverted to the right Heirs, viz. the Sons of *Edmond* : And first to *Edwin* the eldest, whose dissolute and degenerate courses made sudden room for *Edgar* the youngest, who marched any of his Predecessors in worth, and excelled them all in power, for he quieted, and kept under, Danes, Welsh, Scots, inso-much as he is accounted, at least from the Saxons entrance, the first absolute Monarch of this entire Island.

In a word, he was happy in his life, and Reign, but most unhappy in his Issue, for having two Sons, *Edward* and *Ethelred*, by several venters; the Step-mother *Elfred* made *Edward* a Saint to make her own Son *Ethelred* a King; and though now by this removal of his Brother, whereunto possibly he might not be privy, none had any nearer title to the Crown than himself, yet did that innocent blood lye heavy upon him and his seed, nor could it, according to *St. Dunstons* predictions, be expiated, but by a long avengement.

In promoting of which divine justice, the Danes were the principal instruments, who had layn still under *Edgar*, but taking advantage of *Ethelreds* unsettled condition, who by reason of this fore-stalling the Crown was termed the unready, forced him first to purchase an ill-kept peace, and then to relinquish his ill-gotten Kingdom, of which death only prevented *Swayn*, his expeller, to take actual possession, and accumulate this to the Danish Crown.

But *Cnut* the Son of *Swayn* perfected his Fathers design, and afforded *Ethelred* now returned out of *Normandy*, whither to avoid the storm he had betook himself, so sharp an entertainment that oppressed with grief for his bad success, he quitted this, and made another world his second place of refuge, leaving his Son *Edmond* Inheritor of little else, but the miseries of an unfortunate house.

Yet

Yet did *Edmond*, for his valour, and hardinesse in War, furnamed *Ironside*, hew himself out with his Sword the moiety of a Kingdom. For after the effusion of much blood on both sides, and to stop the shedding, of more it was agreed between the two Competitors (*Cnute* and *Edmond*) to try their right by single combate, in proper person, and the over-commer to take all. But there, proving equality in the fight, there was likewise made equality in the command between them; yet did not *Edmond* long enjoy his share, being circumvented by the practice of *Edric* Earl of *Stratton*, the Arch-Traytor of those times, whose falshood had ruined the Father, and now his ambition destroys the Son, for which *Cnute* invents a suitable reward, causing his head to be set upon the highest place of the Tower of *London*, therein performing his promise of advancing him above any Lord of the Land, which was the mark that this faithlesse wretch aimed at, and now attained, but in a far different sence from that which he had vainly proposed to himself.

Cnute being thus rid of a Rival, denied copartnership to the Sons of *Edmond*, as pretending the whole to appertain to the Survivor, and for fear they might prove thorns in his side, he sent them far enough out of the way, into *Swedeland*, say some, there to be murdered, but they were mercifully preserved, and conveyed to the Court of *Hungary*, where *Edmond* dyed without issue, but *Edward* had by *Agatha* Daughter to *Henry* the fourth Emperour of *Germany*, a Son named *Edgar*, and a Daughter called *Margaret*, who was the cause, as hereafter shall be shewed, that the Saxon stem which now seemed withered, doth once more refflourish, though inoculated we confesse, upon another stock.

Notwithstanding this transportation of *Edmonds* Sons, yet did not *Cnute* hold himself sufficiently assured of his new acquired Kingdom, till he had married *Emma* wid-

dow

dow of *Ethelred*, whereby he gained the love of the English: but the promise he made in marriage, that the Children begotten on her should succeed, was for some time frustrated by the preoccupation of *Harold*, (surnamed *Harefoot*,) the eldest son of *Cnut* by a Concubine; but his reign was brief, as likewise was that of his Brother *Hardi Canute*, the lawfull Son of *Cnut* and *Emma*, with whom expired the Danish Dominion here, which had been but of a short duration, though their incursions and molestations had continued for a longer space.

Edward styled the Confessor, to distinguish him from *Edward* the Elder, and *Edward* the Saint, was next King, being the Son of *Emma* also, but by her first Husband *Ethelred* the Unready, and did in some sort restore the Saxon blood: For in truth there was a nearer relation to the Crown extant, though not so near at hand for the present, to wit, *Edward*, surnamed, by reason of his Foreign education, the *Outlaw*, the Son of *Edmond Ironside*, the eldest Son by his first Wife of the above mentioned *Ethelred* the Unready, who ought by the Law of Nature and Nations to have preceded. Yet did the Confessor, wanting Issue himself, do his Nephew the *Outlaw* so much right, as to recall him with his Children out of their Banishment in *Hungary*, and designed him his Successor, but the *Outlaw*'s death before the Confessor, prevented that determination.

Nevertheless the Confessor without delay pronounced *Edgar* the *Outlaw*'s Son, and his own Grand Nephew Heir apparent, and gave him the surname of *Etheling*, which in those dayes were only peculiar to such as were in hopes and possibility of a Kingdom. And more than so, this poor *Etheling* never was: For

First he was debarred by his own Guardian *Harold* the Son of *Goodwin* Earl of *Kent*, who disdaining the title of Regent (which he was only constituted) assumed that of King; Afterwards by *William* Duke of *Normandy*, who though he pulled down *Harold*, yet did he not set up *Edgar*, laying claim himself to the Crown, by virtue of a pretended Donation from his Cousin *Edward* the Confessor, which had been too weak a plea, had it not been justified by a long sword, which hath ever since given him the appellation of *William* the Conquerour.

Robert the eldest Son of the Conquerour should by right of primogeniture have succeeded his Father in all his Dominions, but having proved a Rebel at the French Kings instigation, he had only the Dukedom of *Normandy* assigned to him, and the Crown of *England* was bequeathed to his Brother *William* surnamed *Rufus*, who dying without any legitimate off-spring, and *Robert* being absent in the Holy-land, *Henry* the youngest Son of the Conquerour as Duke of *Normandy*, but eldest as King of *England*, seized upon it, and to ingratiate himself with the Natives, and to corroborate his Title, he Married *Maud*, Daughter of *Margaret* by *Malcolme* King of *Scots*, Sister to *Edgar* *Etheling*, Son of *Edward* the Outlaw, Son of *Edmond Ironside*, Son of *Ethelred* the Unready, Son of *Edgar* the peaceable Son of *Edmond*, Son of *Edward* Senior, Son of *Alfred*, and by which means the Royal seed of the Saxons became to be replanted in the English Soil.

For this *Henry* the first had (not to mention his Son *William* who perished by water whilst he was young) by the foresaid *Maud*, a Daughter of the same name, whom he first espoused to *Henry* the fifth, Emperour of *Germany*, afterwards to *Jeffrey Plantagenet* Earl of *Anjou*, by whom she had a Son called *Henry*, in whom did fully concur the Norman and Saxon Race.

But

But the true hereditary succession was somewhat intercepted by *Stephen* Earl of *Bologne* Son of *Adela* the Conquerours Daughter, from whom he could derive but a slender title: For had the Conquerours line Masculine failed, then ought *Theobald* Earl of *Boys*, *Stephens* Eldest Brother by the same *Adela*, to have been prelated; And therefore his surest Tenure proceeded from his Election by the Nobility, who notwithstanding their natural Allegiance, and twice repeated Oath (and among them *Stephen* himself is reckoned to be one that had sworn Fealty) to *Maud* and her Heirs in the Reign of her Father *Henry*, admitted this stranger, and that for no other reason, though other were alleged (as that *Maud* was a woman, and consequently incapable of anointing; that she was married out of the Realm, without the consent thereof, which if of any moment should before their solemn engagement have been taken into consideration) than that he being a Creature of their own erecting, was more obliged to them, and would upon all occasions be more ready to gratifie their aspiring humour.

Yet wanted not the Empresse and her Son adherents both within and without the Kingdom, to assert their right, who raised such a cloud of trouble to, *Stephen* that he could not dispel it during his whole reign, so that at length he came to a composition, and his own Son *Eustace* whom he had designed his Successour being already dead, he adopts *Henry* fitz-Empresse, and proclaims him heir apparent, with this Proviso; That he himself should enjoy the Crown as long as he lived, which was not a full year after this peaceable agreement.

Henry the second of that name is now possessed of the Throne, (in proesse of time adding the Lord-

ship of *Ireland* to it) and that upon a treble account.

First by vertue of the late Treaty with King *Stephen*, Secondly by title of conquest, as being great Grand-Child to *William* the Norman; but Thirdly, and chiefly, by the equity of his Mothers claim, who was the true descendent of the long-rejected but now restored Saxon linage.

He took to wife *Elenor*, the repudiate of *Lewis* the seventh King of *France*, by whom he had large Dominions in that Kingdom: but notwithstanding it augmented his estate, yet was it the occasion of much trouble and vexation to him; For the French King jealous of his growing fortunes, and his own Queen of his fidelity to his marriage-bed, incited his Sons, *Henry*, *Richard*, *Jeffrey*, and *John*, to frequent rebellions, to whom neverthelesse upon their submissions he was entirely reconciled.

Henry Sans issue departed this life before his Father. *Richard* succeeded in the Throne but dyed childlesse also; *Jeffrey*, though extinct himself before it came to his turn, had yet left a Son in being, *Arthur* Duke of *Britany*, who ought to have been considered of; but him *John* prevented more too, by power & favour of the Nobles, than by any colour of Justice, nad whilst the young Prince endeavours the recovery of his right, he is taken prisoner as he besieged the Castle of *Mirabel* in *France*, conveyed to the Tower of *Roan*, and there killed, if nor by the hands, yet at least by the command of his inhumane Uncle.

However the course taken to be thus rid of a Competitor was utterly unlawfull, yet being gon, *John* becomes the lawfull proprietor of the Crown, but pays dear for the manner of this his amisse procured purchase. For the *Pope* excommunicates him, his Subjects forsake him, the French King invades him;

and bereavs him not only of his large Territories in France, but also of the greatest part of his Kingdome of England, and he dyes miserably, not without suspicion of Poyson; a just judgment upon him for his enormous Acts, especially the murder of his innocent Nephew.

Now though God shewed himself a severe inquisitor for blood, yet did he seem appeased with the punishment of the person that was guilty of it: For he so disposed the hearts of the English Nation, that they generally withdrew themselves from the French party, and notwithstanding the iniquity of the Father, most willingly embrace the Son, then a minor, as naturally inclined, says my Author, to love and obey their Princes.

Such this Prince *Henry* the third found his Subjects at his first admission, whilst he was governed by a wise and faithfull Council, but afterwards suffering himself to be ruled by strangers, that more intended their own than the publick good, he so alienated the English affections, as that they are as ready now to revolt from him, as they were earnest at first to promote his interest. To the former he adds new grievances, to wit, reiterated breach of Charters granted by his Predecessors, and himself, whence such discontents are engendred, that at length there is begotten between the King and his people an actual (commonly known by the name of the Barons) war. Hereof *Simon de Montfort* Earl of *Leicester*, on the Barons side was head, who in a set Battail takes King *Henry* and his Son *Edward* prisoners, but *Edward* escapes, collects an Army, defeats and kills *Leicester*, and redeems his Father, the beginning of whose reign was overcast with a French mist, the middle was very tempestuous by reason of the Barons commotions, but the Catastrophe or latter

part was serene, and concluded in a perfect Calm.

Edward the first of that name since the Norman conquest, having proved the deliverer of his Father from captivity, makes an expedition into the *Holy-land* to perform the like office to the Christians there, that were grievously afflicted under the Turkish servitude: but the news of his Fathers death quickly recalls him from further prosecution of that honourable enterprise, wherein he had no less honourably demeaned himself.

- And as he had increased his own and Countries reputation abroad, so doth he likewise enlarge their power and jurisdiction at home, by subduing most of *Scotland*, and totally reducing of *Wales*, of which last, because it was then first annexed to this Crown, it will not be impertinent to afford the Reader a brief and summary relation.

Wales (the small remnant of this Island that was left to the Britains the antient possessors of the whole) had hitherto, though not without much difficulty and struggling, continued under their own proper Princes: But the fatal period of their liberty, which they had so long, so stoutly maintained, against so potent a Kingdom, as this, is now arrived. *Llewellyn* the then Prince of that Country, being summoned to our Kings Coronation, refused to appear, saying, He too well remembers the end of his Father *Gryffin*, who came in safety to *London*, but never returned thence.

This neglect, *Edward* makes the ground of a quarrel, enters into hostility against *Llewellyn*, forces him to a submission, whereof he soon repents, flies out again, is overcome and slain in fight, his head cut off, and that *Merlins* Prophecy might be fulfilled or eluded, which, as he interpreted, had promised him the Diadem of *Brute*, it is Crowned with Ivy, and set upon the Tower of *London*.

After

After the death of *Llewellyn* and his brother *David*, (whose head was shortly sent to accompany the others in the same place) *Edward* contrives the perpetual union of these two, too long divided, Nations. And though he found the Welsh Nobles very cautious how they brought their necks under a Foreign yoke, yet doth he accomplish his ends by this neat and Artificial devise.

He conveys secretly into the Castle of *Carnarvon*, his Queen great with Child, whom when he understood to be delivered of a boy, he Assembles the Welsh Nobles, and proposeth to them, whether they would accept of a Prince of his Nomination, that was born in their own Country, could speak nere a word of English, and against whom for Life or Conversation no objection could be made: Whereunto when they had assented, he produces his own little Son *Edward*, to whom the aforesaid qualifications did exactly agree; Hence the custom took its original of investing our Kings eldest Sons in the Principality of *wales*: but because there may here seem to have been a mixture of force and fraud, we shall endeavour, when order brings us to it, to find out a more unexceptionable Title, whereby our Kings lay claim to that Dominion.

Edward the second (called *Edward* of *Carnarvon* for the cause but even now rehearsed) much degenerated from his Fathers Noblenesse, and lost not only *Scotland*, which his Father had well-nigh gained, but ever *England* it self, being deposed by his own Wife *Isabel*, having only this comfort left him, that his Son *Edward* was to succeed in the Throne.

Edward the third of that name, Son of the late deposed and shortly after murdered King, was, when he came to years of Discretion, Gods Instrument to revenge

venge his Fathers death, even upon his own Mother the Queen and her Minton *Mortimer*, who was the Author and Procurer of the same.

But the chiefeft passage of this Princes Reign, and that of nearest Alliance to our Subject in hand, which is to declare the Titles our Kings have to the Kingdoms they poffeffe or challenge; was his claiming and almost obtaining the Crown of *France*. The occasion and State of the difference was briefly thus.

Phillip de Valois the then King of *France*, had with fomewhat too much rigour demanded, and with too much Imperiousneffe received the Homage of our *Edward* for fome pieces which he held in that Kingdom. But *Edward*'s high Stomach could not digeft the indignity, as he conceived of this humiliation, confidering but fomewhat of the lateft, that he had a better right not to fragments only, but to the whole, than the perfon to whom he had fo lowly abafed himfelf: For *Edward* was the Son of *Ifabell*, Daughter of *Philip le bell* or the fair, formerly King of *France*, whereas *Philip*, the present injoyer, was Son to *Charls* of *Valois* but younger Brother to the forefaid *le bell*, only there is one frivolous impediment in *Edward*'s way, to wit, the French Law *Salique*, which debars Females & their Descendents from the Crown: but this entail *Edward* is refolved to cut off with a good Sword; And to this purpose he enters *France* with a ftrong Army, and gave the French two fuch famous overthrows at *Cressy* and *Poitiers*, that they put that State into a dangerous Confumption, which without all doubt would have turned to an Heftick Feavour, had the War been profecuted with the fame heat wherewithall it was begun.

A great allay to thefe prosperous proceedings, was the untimely death of *Edward*'s eldeft Son (*Edward*) Prince of *Wales*, but better known by the name of the black

Black Prince, to whose prowess the former Achievements in *France* were chiefly owing, who having made an inroad into *Spain* to reinthroned their *K. Peter*, brought thence Victory and a mortal Disease, which quickly made an end of him, leaving behind him a young Son, *Richard of Bourdeaux*, to whom *Edward the Grand-Father*, yet living, confirmed the succession by Parliament, lest his aspiring Son *John Duke of Lancaster*, *Richards* Uncle, should, as one observes, have supplanted him, as King *John* did his Nephew *Arthur* in the like case.

But what *John of Gaunt Duke of Lancaster* failed in, his Son *Henry of Bullingbrock Duke of Hereford* effected: By deposing his Cosen German *Richard the second*, who is rather noted to be an unfortunate than vicious, a seduced than of himself Tyrannical Prince.

It will be no deviation from the matter, but rather requisite in regard of the light it yields to the clearer and more distinct knowledge of the following confusions, to speak somewhat more particularly of the manner of this *Henries* compassing the Crown, the claim he laid to it, and the course he took to settle the succession in his own house, this being the Fountain from which flowed the most bloody and most tedious Civil Wars that ever *England* endured, this being the great ball of contention between the White Rose and the Red, between the Yorkish and Lancastrian Family.

Henry the fourth of that name among the English Kings, was, as hath been noted before, the Son of *John of Gaunt Duke of Lancaster*, fourth Son of King *Edward the third*; His Father was suspected, but he is detected, of higher thoughts than it became a Subject (he being then but Duke of *Hereford*) to entertain.

For justification of himself, *Hereford* appeals to his Sword, and offers combat to *Thomas Mowbray Duke of Norfolk* his Accuser, who courageously accepts there-

thereof: But as they were about to joyn issue, King *Richard* interposes and banished them both, out of the Realm, *Norfolk* for ever, *Hereford* for ten years; four of which the King struck off as of special favour, when he came to take his solemne leave of him. But *Hereford* himself doth much more abbreviate the time, and doth long anticipates even the last indulged date of his return: For he re-lands the very same day twelve-month he departed, and found many Abettors of his quarrel (which at first he only pretends to be the recovery of his Dukedom) especially the Earl of *Northumberland*, whom King *Richard* at his late going into *Ireland*, where now he is, because the Earl demurred to accompany him in the Voyage, had caused to be proclaimed Traytor, and so made him that, which otherwise perhaps he would not have been. But *Henries* Power more and more increasing, and *Richards* dayly decreasing, till at length it languished into nothing, *Henry* discovers, that it was somewhat more than a bare Dukedom that he aimed at: A Parliament is called, in which King *Richard* as is pretended, not only voluntarily surrenders, but is also violently degraded, and *Henry*, both by his and the peoples appointment, installed in his Room, who upon the day of his Coronation, caused it to be proclaimed, that he claimed the Crown of *England*, First, by right of Conquest; Secondly, because King *Richard* had resigned his Estate, and designed him his Successor; Lastly, because he was of the B'ood Royal, and next Heir Male to King *Richard*. Heir Male, rather *Hæc est Malus*, sayes *Edmond Mortimer* Earl of *March* to some of his Familiars, as knowing the lawfull right to be inherent in himself, though for the present it must give place to a stronger possessor. For this *Edmond* was the Son of *Roger*, the Son of *Edmond* Earl

Earl of *March*, by *Philip* Daughter of *Lionel* Duke of *Clarence*, who was elder Brother to *John* Duke of *Lancaster*, King *Henries* Father. Hereof *Henry* is very apprehensive, and having dispatched *Richard* to Heaven before his time, wished *Mortimer* there also, and in order to his hastening thither, refused to procure his liberty and enlargement, but suffered him to continue in a loathsome Dungeon, though he had been taken Prisoner in defence of his Country against *Owen ap Glendower*, the famous Revolter of *Wales*, who therefore the more hardly used him, that thereby his Kinsman King *Henry* might be moved to redeem him, but therefore King *Henry* would not redeem him, because he well hoped by this hard usage to be rid of him, who was like to prove the greatest prejudice to his crazy and counterfeit Title. For it was obvious to all, however for fear dissembled by most, that the issue of *Lionel* Elder Son of King *Edward* the third, ought to have preceded *John* of *Gaunts* the younger Son of the foresaid *Edward*; And hence it was, that *Henry* doth not solely rely upon his Fathers right, which he knew to be infirm, as long as any of *Lionels* off-spring remained, but joyns to it that of his Mother *Blanch*, Daughter and Heir to *Henry* Duke of *Lancaster*, Son of *Edmond*, nick-named *Crook-back*, eldest Son, as was alleged, of King *Henry* the third, but by reason of his deformity put by the succession, which was for that cause conferred upon King *Edward* the first, though but the younger Brother; But the truth is, in this pedigree there is an Error in the very Foundation, for though our *Henry* were so descended as is specified, from *Edmond*, yet the said *Edmond* was neither eldest Son to *Henry* the third, nor yet a deformed person, but a proper Gentleman, and a great Commander, therefore entitled *Crook-back*, or rather

Crouch-back, because he had took upon him the Crosse, and according to the Custom of those days warred in the Holyland.

Thus appears the invalidity of *Henryes* claim, whether from the Father, as unsound, or the Mother, as suspicious, and deceitful, or from King *Richard* receding, as extorted by force in restraint, and so of no force, or of consent of the many, there being no Custom in the English Nation for popular elections, or by Conquest, which in a Subject against his Sovereign is Insurrection, and Victory high Treason, as was well observed by the Bishop of *Carlisle* in his speech in that very Parliament, where this business was agitated and transacted.

Nay further, there is a tradition, that *John of Gaunt* (Father of this *Henry*) was not at all the Son of King *Edward*, but that the Queen being deliver'd of a female child, knowing how unacceptable it would be to her Husband, exchanged it for a boy with a Dutch woman, who had been brought to bed about the same hour: This the Queen at her death confessed to *William of Wickham* Bishop of *Winchester*, who acquainted none with it but *John of Gaunt* himself, and that when he perceived *John* to affect the Crown, in which case the Mother had left the Bishop free: But this being but a report, and grounded on uncertainties, would have been no bar to *Henry's* title, had it been clear in all other respects.

Henry, as he had injuriously obtained a Kingdom, so doth he laboriously preserve the same; for the manifold conspiracies against him testifie that quiet is not a Concomitant of usurped greatnesse; and was in a manner bereaved of his Crown, before he was of his life: For he being seized upon by a deep fit of the Apoplexy, his Son *Henry* seized upon the Crown, where-
of,

of, when the Father reviving demanded the reason; his answer was, That in his and all mens judgement there present, he was dead, and then says he, I being next Heir apparent to the same, took it as my indubitable right; Well said the King, and sighed, Son, what right I had to it, God knoweth; but saith the Prince, If you dye King, I doubt not to hold it, as you have done, against all opposers.

Which expression this incomparable King *Henry* the fifth did make good even to supererogation: for abandoning his youthfull extravagancies, whercof he is severely taxed, he embraces more solid courses, and to vent any discontented humours at home, which by standing still might corrupt, and gather putrefaction, he meditates a war with *France*, and awakens the English title to it, which had lyen dormant ever since his great Grand-Fathers days.

But whilst he is in preparation for this great affair, he either makes or discovers a plot against his life, by *Richard* Earl of *Cambridge*, who had married *Anne* Sister and Heir of *Edmond Mortimer*, Earl of *March*, before remembred, who was the true heir of the Crown, and was the true cause of Earl *Richards* execution: for it cannot be imagined that money alone would induce so noble a person to so foul an undertaking. And the event shews that there was somewhat more than Bribery in this attempt, when we shall find the Son of this late executed Earl, dispossessing his Son, who was the Author of his Fathers Tragedy.

Henry having thus eased himself of a great Pretender, proceeds to his intended design on *France*, where he so prosperously speeds, that he is constituted Regent, & declared Heir apparent of the doting French King, whose Daughter *Katherine* he marries, & by her hath a Son named *Henry*, of whom the King is said to have thus pro-

phesied; I *Henry* born at *Monmouth*, shall small time reign and much get, and *Henry* born at *Windſor* shall long reign and loſe all.

And ſo indeed it came to paſſe through the ſecret operation of all-diſpoſing Providence, which is ſeldom propitious to the owners (how good in themſelves ſoever they be) of ill-gain'd inheritances beyond the third ſucceſſion. And hereof our preſent *Henry* the ſixth is a great example, who was the meekeſt and moſt religious of all our Kings that had been before, and yet for no other tranſgreſſion that we know of, than the original Sin of his Grand-Father, *Henry* the fourth, meddling with the forbidden fruit of a Crown his ere it was ripe for him, is he chaſed out of the terreſtrial Paradise of all his Kingdoms, and ſent to be a partaker of a Celeſtial one, ſomewhat more early than the due courſe of nature had deſigned him for it.

For that covert fire which had a long time burned in the breſts of many, to ſee the Lancaſtrian race enjoy anothers right, doth now break forth into open combustion, of which *Richard* Duke of *York* is the prime incendiary, the Son of *Richard* Earl of *Cambridge*, who was beheaded in King *Henry* the fifths reign, for ſuppoſed Treason, the Son of *Edmond* Duke of *York*, the fifth Son of King *Edward* the third.

But Duke *Richard* waves all pretenſions by the Fathers ſide, as not being ignorant, that *John* of *Gaunt* (from whom our preſent *Henry* is directly deſcended) was elder brother to his Grandfire *Edmond*, and therefore in Parliament only produceth his title by the Mother, as being the Son and Heir of *Anne*, Siſter and Heir of *Edmond*, Son and Heir of *Roger Mortymer* Earl of *March*, Son and Heir of *Philippa*, the ſole Daughter and Heir of *Lionel* Duke of *Clarence*, the third Son of

Edward

Edward the third, and elder Brother of *John of Gaunt*, Duke of *Lancaster*, Father of the Usurper *Henry* the fourth, Grand-Father of *Henry* the fifth, who was Father to him, who now (says *Richard*) untruly stileth himself King *Henry* the sixth.

Besides his holding forth his claim to the Crown in this demonstrative, and undeniable manner (which yet the judicious could only penetrate) the Duke addeth many Rhetorical aggravations, which were more suitable, and intelligible to vulgar ears; As that the King was simple, and of weak capacity; that he was Governed by the Queen a stranger, and Woman of an unsufferable ambition; that the Privy Counsellors were naught and corrupt, through whose faithlesse and inabilities, *France* was lost, and *England* disquieted, and that greater judgements were to be expected, if the true Heir were any longer debarred from his lawful right.

The Duke by these plausible arguments had so engaged the multitude unto him, that he is able to dispute his Title in the Field with the King, whom he takes Prisoner, and calling in his name a Parliament, it is there concluded, that King *Henry* during his life, should retain the name and Honour of a King; that the Duke of *York* should be Proclaimed Heir apparent to the Crown, and Protector of the Kings Person and Dominions; that if at any time King *Henries* Friends, Allies, or Favorites, in his behalf should attempt the disannulling of this Act, that then the Duke should have present possession of the Crown.

But this was more than what his destiny had allotted for him; for he was shortly after slain at the Battle of *Wassfield* by Queen *Margaret*, who was of a more Masculine Spirit, than to acquiesce in the fore-mentioned dishonorable Conditions; and because it

was

was a Crown that the Duke of *York* chiefly affected, She caused his Head to be cut off, set upon a Pole, and Crowned with Paper : but the death and disgrace of the Father, *Edward* Earl of *March*, his Eldest Son doth speedily revenge to the utter ruine of the *Lancastrian* party.

Nor will this *Edward*, as did his Father, await anothers leasure, and prove expectant of a Crown in reversion, but immediately assumes it by the actual deposing of King *Henry*, whom he takes Prisoner, and commits to safe custody in the Tower of *London*.

But there was an accident which had well-nigh nipped the white Rose in the bud, and restored the red Rose to its pristine vigour.

Edward the fourth, late Earl of *March*, now King of *England*, sends his great General the Earl of *Warwick* to treat a Match between him, and the Lady *Bona* Sister to the Queen of *France*. But our youthful King in the mean time consulting only his own affections, takes to Wife, the fair Lady *Gray*, Widdow of Sir *John Gray* of *Groby*; which so incenses *Warwick*, that he Rebels against his Master, beats him not only out of the Field, but also out of the Kingdom, delivers King *Henry* from his Prison, and reseats him in his Throne; but all this is but as Lightning before Death; *Edward* returns from beyond Seas, fights with, defeats and kills the Earl of *Warwick*, routs also Queen *Margaret* newly landed, and the reliëts of her *Lancastrian* Associates, takes her and her Son *Edward* Prisoners, which last is stabbed by *Richard* Duke of *Glocester*, King *Edwards* Brother, and not long it is, but the Father *Henry* is dispatched by the same hand in the Tower of *London*, whither he was remanded by King *Edward* after this fortunate and victorious success.

The cruelty of *Richard Duke of Gloucester*, whose nature was more crooked than his body, did not terminate in the blood of his Enemies, but begins to practise on his Friends and nearest Relations: For perceiving that King *Edward* by reason of his incontinency, whereunto no English Prince was ever more subject, was not long liv'd, he secretly plots the attaining of the Crown for himself; And for the more expedite compassing this ambitious design, he first incenses King *Edward* against their common Brother *George Duke of Clarence*, not only exaggerating the hainousness of his former disobedience (which had been pardoned) but insinuating a blind Prophecy, that one whose name began with the letter *G.* should prove fatal to *Edwards* posterity.

Hereupon the Duke of *Clarence* is committed to the Tower, and there, by *Richard* drowned in a Butt of *Malmsey*, however it was given out that he dyed of a discontented passion.

But the Ominous *G.* which the King so much dreaded, was found in the sequele to appertain to *Glocester* himself, who was the Contriver of this mischief, and Butcher of *Edwards* innocent Sons, of whom, after the Kings decease, he was made Protector.

The young Prince (*Edward* the fifth) was at *Ludlow*, when his Father, *Edward* the fourth dyed, from whence his Mother was over desirous to have him forthwith conveyed to *London*.

But his Uncle the Duke of *Glocester* meets him by the way at *Stony-Stratford*, and having secured all his faithful Attendants and Kindred by the Motherside, takes into custody the person of the young King, which was the game that this mighty hunter did mainly intend.

Yet was there one obstacle to his aspiring ends still
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behind, to wit, *Richard Duke of York* the Kings Brother, in Sanctuary with his Mother at *Westminster*, whom to allure thence (for to do it by Violence, was accounted Religion in those days) he employs the Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury* to perswade the Mother, and in case she proves obstinate, to interpose his Authority, to part with her Son, under colour, that he might be a companion, and great lenitive of the Melancholy disposition of his disconsolate Brother.

Glocester having thus compassed the Wardship of both his Nephews, makes shew as if he would proceed to the Coronation of the Elder, but whilst the Lords of the Council are debating of the time and manner of it, he arrests, and on a sudden makes shorter by the Head the Lord Chamberlain *Hastings*, whom though he had used as a forward Coadjuter in depressing of the Queens Relations, yet knew him to be altogether averse from yielding any Countenance to the disinheriting of his Masters King *Edwards* Children.

Hastings thus removed, the Duke of *Buckingham* (who had received several disgusts from his Brother-in-law *Edward* the fourth) is pitched upon as the fittest agent to carry on this Devilish attempt; who having prepared the Mayor and Citizens of *London*, comes in their name, pretending *Bastardy*, and insufficiency of *Edwards* race, to make a tender of the Crown to Protector *Richard*, and in case of refusal, with threats to elect some other worthy and deserving Person. *Richard* in seeming amazednesse makes strange at first of this by himself-devised proposal, but after some importunity, grants his, forsooth, unwilling consent, not without a dissembled regret of his Nephews condition, whose murder in the Tower doth immediately ensue.

Buckingham (supposed not privy to the making away of the harmlesse Princes) upon this and other distasts, retires from Court to his Castle of *Brecknock*, where, with his prisoner *Morton* Bishop of *Ely*, he contrives the Match between *Henry* Earl of *Richmond*, and *Elizabeth* Daughter of *Edward* the fourth, which proves *Richards* downfall, and the union of the *Yorkish* and *Lancastrian* line.

Henry Earl of *Richmond*, was the Son of *Margaret*, Daughter of *Iohn* Duke of *Somerset*, Son of *Iohn* of *Gauwat* Duke of *Lancaster*, by *Katherine Swineford*, reliet of *Sir Oes Swineford*; and though this *Iohn*, and other Children, were born before espousals, yet was the issue made legitimate by Act of Parliament, and confirmed by a Bull from *Rome*.

Of this *Henry* there goes a tradition for current, that in the heat of the Civil Wars between the House of *York* and *Lancaster*, *Henry* the sixth having espied him in the presence, laid his hand upon his head, and in a Prophetick manner said, Behold this youth, who is to enjoy that for which we now contend.

Which his Mother observing, and treasuring up in her heart, sent him into *Britany* in *France*, as into a safe Harbour, to be there educated and preserved till the fury of the tempest were over, which then did so terribly rage throughout the Land.

Richard the third earnestly Solicites the Duke of *Britany* to deliver up *Richmonds* person to him, which was well-nigh effected, by the treachery of *Peter Landows*, the Dukes especial Favourite; But *Richmond* having timely notice of this Clandestine negotiation, flies to the French Kings Court, (for at that time the Dukedom of *Britany* was a distinct Principality) from whence having sworn to consummate the projected marriage with the Lady *Elizabeth*, he hastens to re-

deem poor *England* from the jaws of an usurping Tyrant.

Richmond Lands at *Milford Haven* in *Pembrokeshire*, where he was heartily welcomed, and readily assisted by the Welsh, from whose Princes he was descended, as being the Son of *Edmond* of *Haddam*, the Son of *Owen Ap Teudor*, who could in a direct line derive his pedigree from the Noble Race of *Cadwallader*, last King of the Britains on this side *Severne*, as hath been before touched; though a modern Writer, more for the jest sake, than out of reality, sayes he was a Gentleman of no extraordinary lineage, but lineaments, which he makes to be the motive that induced *Katherine* of *France*, Dowager of *England*, after the death of *Henry* the fifth, to take him for her second Husband.

Richmond having much increased his Army among his Country-men, marches forward as far as *Bosworth* in *Leicestershire*, where King *Richard* meets him, and there the great controversy is finally decided in Battle; *Richard* is slain, and *Richmond* by a kind of military election saluted, and in a manner Crowned King in the Field.

Henry the seventh (for so must we now call him, that was but lately Earl of *Richmond*,) sensible that the tumultuary approbation of Souldiers did of it self give him neither just or durable possession, knowing likewise the weaknesse of the *Lancastrian* plea in opposition to that of *York*, maries, according to his solemn preingagement, *Elizabeth* eldest Daughter of *Edward* the fourth, which brought security to his estate, and happiness to the Kingdom, the two Roses, whose divisions had put the English to much expence of blood, being thereby concorporated, and for ever after linked in a most firm and indissolvable knor,

But as in a body, that hath been troubled with a Cronique Disease, though recovered, yet are there still some peccant humours to be purged out : so, notwithstanding this Union and Recoriliation, there remains dregs of discontents, whereof the Queen Mother was the supposed Parent, and *Margaret* Dutchesse of *Burgundy* the known Nurse; the first, because she thought her Daughter not sufficiently respected (for King *Henry* is not accused to have been over uxorious or indulgent to his wife) the other, being Sister of *Edward* the fourth, bore an endlesse hatred to any of the *Lancastrian* Race.

The first Spirit they raised to disturb King *Henries* quiet, was one *Lambert Symnell*, a stripling, but so instructed by *Simon* a Priest, who had higher directors, that he could well personate the young Earl of *Warwick* (Son of *George* Duke of *Clarence*) whom the credulous Irish greedily entertain and acknowledge for their King : And when *Henry* to detect the forgery, had publicly shown in *London* the very Earl of *Warwick* whom he kept his Prisoner, they retort the fiction upon himself, and give out he had suborned a counterfeit on purpose to delude the simple multitude.

But this Pageantry quickly vanished, the Conspirators are dispersed, and *Lambert* taken, who had the honour to be first made a Turn-spit in the Kings Kitchen, but was afterwards preferred to be one of the Kings Falconers.

This was but the Prologue as it were to a more deep contrived Comi-Tragedy that was to follow, whereof the restless Dutchesse of *Burgundy* was the Inventor, and one *Perkin Warbeck* the principal Actor. But the Name and Scene is somewhat altered : His Cue assigned him, is to play the part of *Richard* Duke of *York*,

second Son of *Edward* the fourth, who is feigned to have miraculously escaped the hands of his bloody Uncle.

Perkin was so good a proficient, and had learned, and could repeat his lesson so exactly, that not the silly Irish alone, but the French, and Scottish Kings, with many of the Nobility and Gentry of *England*, were, or would be deceived.

Nay, Sir *William Stanley* himself, Lord Chamberlain, the Kings especial favorite, is so far tripanned, as to utter this improvident Speech (which was construed high Treason) that if he certainly knew that the young man was the undoubted Son and Heir of King *Edward* the fourth, he would never fight, or bear Arms against him; for which he became headlesse, though he had been the chief help and setter of the Crown upon King *Henry's* head.

Perkin at length is taken, and committed to the Tower, where soliciting the Earl of *Warwick* to make an escape, he hastens both his own merited, and that poor Earls undeserved execution.

Henry having thus composed his affairs at home, seeks honourable matches for his children abroad; and marries his eldest Daughter *Margaret* to the Scottish King, providently foreseeing, that in case his issue Male failed, this conjunction might be a means to associate the separated Kingdoms, (as his own had the Roses) and so remedy the inconveniences of two distinct estates in one single Island.

Arthur his eldest Son, Prince of *Wales*, was espoused to *Katherine* Infanta of *Spain*, but he dying before consummation, we mean as to conjugal duty, his brother *Henry* by dispensation from the Pope, takes her to wife, who on the wedding day was attired all

all in white , in token that she was a pure and spot-
less Virgin.

It is conceived that the young Prince (who hence-
forward is to be stiled *Henry* the eighth) had never a-
ny great fancy to the Lady , as somewhat his Superiour
in years, but did rather comply with his Fathers will,
than his own inclinations : However for a long time
he lived with her in an outward loving and seeming
respectful manner.

But at length satiated with her company, whom
from the beginning he had not truly affected, he medi-
tates a divorce, and hopes by money and Cardinal
Woolsey's interest in the Court of *Rome*, with speed to
effect the same. *Woolsey*, (who by his obsequiousnesse to
the Kings pleasure in all things, had from a mean con-
dition mounted to the highest degree of favour and
power that a Subject is capable of) is reported to be
the first that injected the scruple into the Kings head,
touching the unlawfullnesse of his marriage with
his Brothers Wife, which once in, could not in haste
be put out again. But in the prosecution the King
and *Woolsey* had different ends : *Woolsey* to revenge him-
self of *Charles* the fifth, Emperour of *Germany*, and
Nephew to *Katherine*, who had been a back-Friend to
Woolsey in his attempted advancement to the Popedom,
and by proposing a match to the King out of *France*,
he thought to ingratiate with that Crown, which
might be more auspicious in promoting his towring
designs. But the King had another, though not so
deep a reach, which more concerned his own pri-
vate satisfaction, than policy or reason of State.

For he desired to be unyoked from his old Queen,
that he might make a new one of one of her maids of
honour, *Anne* of *Bolen*, with whom he was despe-
rately in love : which the Cardinal smelling out,
proves

proves cold in the businesse, delays to exercise his legantine power, instigates the Pope to recall the cause to himself, and proceeds slowly therein; all which is performed accordingly, but it concludes with the ruine of *woolfsey's* and the Popes Authority. For impatient of these procrastinations, *Henry* discards the one, and renounces the other, rejects *Katherine*, marries *Anne*, grows weary of her, impeaches her of incest with her own Brother, cuts off her head, in whose room the very next day succeeds *Jane Seymour*, who dies in Child-birth; And so he continues shifting and putting away, or to death, his Wives, as well as other Subjects, till his own appointed time came, a little before which it is recorded that in great *Agony* he should say unto Arch-Bishop *Cranmer*, Is there any mercy for him, who never spared man in his wrath, nor woman in his lust?

In his life he little regarded, but rather endeavour- ed to defeat by Parliament, the titles of his Daughters, *Mary* by *Katherine of Spain*, and *Elizabeth* by *Anne of Bolen*, with both whose Mothers he had been grievously displeased, and seemed more inclinable to the off-spring of his youngest Sister *Mary*, (Dowager of *France*) by *Charles Brandon Duke of Suffolk*, but at his death, by his last Will and Testament, he constituted his Son *Edward* by *Jane Seymour*, his next immediate heir, and then in case they dyed issuelesse, the Lady *Mary* and the Lady *Elizabeth* to succeed in their order.

Henry the eighth being dead, *Edward* the 6th. of that name, his Son, is at nine years of age proclaimed King, and *Edward Duke of Sommerfet* by the Mothers side ordained his Protector, whose candid nature exposed him to the cunning wiles of *Dudley Duke of Northumberland*, which at last brought *Sommerfet*, his Brother *Thomas Marquesse of Hertford Admiral of England*, and

and even the King himself to their untimely ends.

The Fox (*Northumberland*) observing the difference between the Protector and the Admiral, begun by the womanish emulation of their Wives, doth underhand so foment it, that the Admiral is brought to the block, and the Protector not long after follows, which renders the Pupill King, more obnoxious to *Northumberland's* ambitious practices, now that his two faithfull Uncles, who should have supported him, are removed out of the way.

Northumberland taking advantage of the Kings weaknesse of mind and body, (whereunto he is shrewdly suspected to have contributed) advises him to make a Will, wherein the King declaring that he was past his minority, (though not above sixteen years of age) and that it appertained to him to dispose of the Kingdome as he pleased, doth disinherit his Sisters *Mary* and *Elizabeth*, as Persons of whose legitimation there was a question as likewise the issue of his eldest Aunt Sister *Margaret* married to the Scottish King, as foreigners and aliens, bequeathing the Crown to his Cousen *Jane* Grand-daughter to the Dutchesse of *Suffolk*, the youngest Sister of his Father King *Henry* the eighth.

Guilford (Duke *Dualess* Son) was husband to this Lady *Jane*, who upon the death of *Edward* was proclaimed Queen, but *Mary* the eldest Daughter of King *Henry*, by the assistance of the *Norfolk* and *Suffolk* Gentry, recovered that which both by birth and her Fathers appointment, was her undoubted though for a small time detained right.

Notwithstanding *Mary* by the Protestants aid attained the Crown, yet her Education in the contrary profession, and the memory that for her Mothers sake it suffered its first detriment, obliged her to recall the Catholick Religion that had been banished in her Predecessors

decessors days, keeping, as one wittily observes, the Kingdom by *Pater noster*, which she had gained by *Our Father which art in Heaven*.

Her zeal and over-ardent desire to extinguish that which she thought Heresy, kindled many fires in this land, for which she hears ill among the vulgar to this day, and bears the brand of tyranny, though of her self she was of a mild and merciful disposition.

Among other passages, her severity to her Sister *Elizabeth* is much taxed, of whose sincere devotion, though outwardly conformable to the Romish Church, the Queen much doubted, and fearing a relapse of things after her own death, could have been content that her Sister *Elizabeth*, though the youngest, had had the Precedency therein; But *Philip* King of *Spain*, Queen *Maryes* husband, had other thoughts of and intentions towards *Elizabeth*, whom he preserved from her Sisters violence, and designed for his second, we would say, third wife, for he was a Widdower, when he married *Mary*, by whom he now begins to despair of issue, and by reason of her Dropsy, perceives she was in no wise immortal here.

Queen *Elizabeth* at her first entrance makes shew as if she would tread in her Sister *Maryes* steps, whereby she so charmed the Catholick Clergy and Nobility, that they created her no disturbance: And she did further to temporize with King *Philip*, that he was a great favourer of her admission, hoping shortly to be a Copartner with her both in Bed and Kingdom.

But the fancy which *Philip*, though no Babe, had builded in his brain, quickly appears to be but an aerial Castle; for *Elizabeth* soon undeceives him, and other Romanists, who had promised themselves other matters, by declining Marriage, disowing the Popes Jurisdiction, and reducing Ecclesiastical Affairs to the same state and condition her Father and Brother had left them in.

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The averſeneſſe of this Queen to Matrimonial Bondage, as ſhe accounted it, gave occaſion to that great and by her alwayes diſliked diſpute about the Succeſſion : That it belonged of right to *Mary* Queen of *Scots*; Daughter of *James*, the fifth Son of *Margaret* eldeſt Daughter to King *Henry* the ſeventh, none could reaſonably deny; but *Mary*, ſay the State Politicians of thoſe times, will prove another *Mary*, and our Religion will be depreſſed, if ſhe be advanced to the Engliſh Throne : Her own Subjects have expelled her upon that account; and ſhall we accept of her for our Princeſſe, whom we have ſo much diſobliged by detaining ſo long a Priſoner?

For this unfortunate Queen, having been educated in *France*, did after the deceaſe of her firſt Husband, the *Dolphin*, return into *Scotland*, of whoſe faſhions, by reaſon of her forein breeding, being ſomewhat ignorant, ſhe could not conſequently but be guilty of ſome miſcarriages, which her Enemies ſo aggravate, that they ſtir up the people to a ſedition, ſeize upon her Perſon, force her to reſign to her Son *James* (by *Henry* Lord *Darby*, Son of the Duke of *Lenox*) not full eighteen Months old, of whom Earl *Murray* (her Baſtard Brother) is made Regent, who was the beginning and continuer of all her troubles.

Mary, late, and by right ſtill, Queen of *Scots*, after this extorted and therefore invalid reſignation, fearing further attempts againſt her life, eſcapes out of the loathſom Gaol where ſhe was ſecured, and betakes her ſelf into *England* for ſuccour, ſending news to her Cozen Queen *Elizabeth*, imploring not only preſent protection, but alſo ſuch convenient aides, as might reſtore her to her Kingdom, of which ſhe had been forceably deprived by her Murinous and Rebellious Subjects.

Elizabeth at first gives good words, and sends her large attendance, which were yet but in the quality of an honourable Guard, but afterwards more and more abridges her liberty; at which hard and unworthy usage of a suppliant and Heir apparent of the Crown, some English Lords and Gentlemen conceiving a just disdain, project and propose to her means of deliverance, wherunto she (as all other living creatures are) most greedy of natural freedom, doth readily assent; but these are prevented; and her Actions interpreted as yet tending to the destruction of Queen *Elizabeth*. for which she is tryed by certain delegated Commissioners (who much resembled a late thing called an High Court of Justice) is by them found guilty, and shortly after beheaded at *Fotheringham* Castle in *Northamptonshire*; but the true cause why she suffered, was expressed to her self by the Earl of *Kent*, (one of her Judges,) a little before her reputed Martyrdom; *Madam*, says he, if you live our Religion is in danger, of which words she desired the Auditors to take special notice, that confessedly it was not Treason, but Religion for which she was to dye.

James the 6th. King of *Scotland*, Son of the late executed *Mary*, now come to years of discretion, expostulates with Queen *Elizabeth* about his Mothers death, but the Queen puts it off upon the precipitation of her Secretary *Darison*, intimating, that if he stirred in the least manner to revenge, it would irrecoverably hazard his hopes of the Succession, of which yet she gives him but a very faint assurance. But in her declining age, some about her, who had been shie before to intermeddle with so ticklish and unpleasing a point, grow more peremptory, and presse her to a positive declaration, to whom her answer was, It is the King of *Scots* due, and let him have it.

Conform whereunto *James* King of *Scotland*, immediately after her death is proclaimed King of *England*, both which he converts into the name of Great *Britany*; and now is *Cadwalladers* Prophecy, before remembered, exactly completed, that his Race should recover the sole Dominion of this Island; for King *James*, besides his direct descent from King *Henry* the seventh, brought another, but higher title, if the former had not been sufficient, from *Banco* a Nobleman of *Scotland*, whose Son *Fleance* fled from the tyranny of *Macheth* the Usurper, into *Wales*, and there married the Prince his Daughter, by whom he had *Walter* the first of the renowned Family of the *Stewards*: but for the particulars of that conjunction, we referre you to the British and Scottish Historians.

King *James* arose in this our Horizon with much clearness, notwithstanding *Rawleighs* mist, and the smoak of the Gun-powder-plot, which were soon dispell'd: but his setting was obscured by a little Cloud which shortly did overspread the whole Land.

He had married his eldest Daughter *Elizabeth* to *Frederick* Prince Palatine of the *Rhene*, who unadvisedly gaping after the Kingdom of *Bohemia*, lost not only it, but his own patrimonial possession.

King *James* who had more of *Solomon* than *David* in him, solicites restitution, rather by Treaty than Arms, and as the most conducing means to his peaceable ends, entertains an overture of a match betwixt his Son *Charles* Prince of *Wales* and the Infanta of *Spain*, to whose King, the Palatinate was by the Emperour consigned over.

But the English Parliament takes exception at this intended Spanish affinity, and as if Religion were at the Stake, declaims against it; Notwithstanding the King sends his Son into *Spain*, who returns thence with.

without a wife, yet in his passage thither, had an accidental sight of her in *France*, who was by Heaven his designed Spouse.

As soon as *James* was dead, *Charles* his Son is proclaimed King, who immediately marries *Henrietta Maria* youngest Daughter to *Henry* the great King of *France*, of whom, as was just now hinted, he had a transient view in his voiage to *Spain*, which when this Princeesse understood, she is reported to have said, That he needed not to have gone so far for a wife.

But now the seed of discontent, which had been sowed in his Fathers time, did begin to bud forth; *Scotland* yields the first-fruits, which also too much thrives in the English Plantation. The Scottish Nobility enter into Combination against Episcopacy, and the Service-book, which they allege to be obtruded upon them.

For redresse of these imaginary grievances, the Scots with swords in their hand approach his Majesty to present a Petition, as is given out: A Parliament in *England* is called to compose differences, which rather increases them, for which it is soon dissolved: The Scots Invasion continues, but at length a Pacification is made; another Parliament is convened, which working so far upon the Kings necessities, extorts from him an inseparable jewel of his Prerogative, to wit, a privilege, not before asked or granted, not to be discharged without their own consent.

In strength of this concession they proceed to other unseasonable demands, which together with the tumults of the City, occasioned the King to retire Northward, and being denyed entrance into *Hull*, (for which *Sir John Hotham* did afterwards receive his reward from those that imployed him) he repairs to

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Nottingham, where, understanding that an Army was formed under the Earl of *Essex* at *London*, and then on their March to bring him back, as it was given out, to his Parliament, he sets up his Standard Royal; but the appearance not answering expectation, he directs his course towards *Shrewsbury*, where by the confluence of the loyal Welsh, his small forces are so increased, that he is able to confront the Earl of *Essex*, then at *Worcester*, who retreats into *Warwickshire*, and is overtaken at *Edge-hill* by his Majesty, where the first signal battail is fought, in which both sides were great losers, and yet both sides assume the victory to themselves.

The war continues doubtful for three years, but the Battail at *Naseby* in *Northamptonshire* proves fatal to the Kings affairs; for after that succeeds little else, but the ruine of his party in all places, and surrender of most of his Garrisons, till he was necessitated in disguise to leave *Oxford*, his prime, and well-nigh alone remaining hold, then in a manner beleaguered, and betake himself for Protection to the Scottish Army.

The Scots, though they had received all possible satisfaction as to their own concerns, yet could not refrain from intermeddling in the English distempers, and were at that time besieging *Newark* upon *Trent*.

They at first received the King with all seeming promises of security as to his Person, but having carried him with them to *Newcastle*, do there barter him with the English for 200000 *l.* a price, which, as the French Embassador observed, did far exceed that which *Judas* received for betraying of our Saviour.

From *Newcastle* his bought and sold Majesty is conveyed, by Commissioners deputed for that purpose from the Parliament of *England*, to a house at *Holdenby* in

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Northamptonshire (perhaps that he might be within prospect of that uncomfortable place *Naseby*, where was given him his irreparable overthrow) there to reside during the pleasure of the two Houses: But not long it was ere *Cromwel* (whose pulie at that time says a then pen-man, began to bear a Lordly pace) by his instrument *Joyce* surprizes him in his bed, and when *Joyce* told *Cromwel* that he had the King in his Custody, then, quoth *Cromwel*, I have the Parliament in my pocket.

Cromwells end in seizing on the Kings person, was not only for countenance of his Independent proceedings against the opposite Presbyterian faction; but after their depression the better to be enabled to destroy the King himself for his own advancement.

For having once entrapped this Royal Lyon, he doth dayly more and more entangle him within his toyles, and never thinks him fast enough, till he had got him in his pit-fall of the *Isle of Wight*: whether he had allured the good King, who thought others as free from guile, as he knew himself to be, by setting before him the danger he was in, while he remained at *Hamp-ton* Court, how he lay open and exposed to the wicked machinations of the Agitators of the Army, who intended to Act that, which he poor Soul did even tremble to utter.

But what the King hopes to find a temporary Sanctuary, proves to him a constant prison, from whence he is not to be delivered but in order to his Tryal and Execution, the Barbarity of which fact, as we cannot, so neither need

need we aggravate, the whole world both then, and still detesting the Authors and Actors of that abominable Tragedy.

Charles the first being thus execrably murdered, his eldest Son *Charles* the second ought to have succeeded; but the wicked Regicides not only disavowed his Title, but proceeded to abolish even Monarchical Government it self, introducing in its place a Free-State, or Commonwealth (empty notions to delude the Vulgar,) and leaving no course unessayed to debar the Right Heir, whom God, Nature, and the Law of the Land had designed to; yea, and the Peoples wishes (notwithstanding the fore-mentioned popular pretences) had already teated in his Fathers Throne.

And as they are careful to secure themselves at home, so are they no less active to defeat His Majesties preparations abroad: *Cromwel* is sent into *Ireland*, who but too soon brings under that almost happily recovered Kingdom.

From thence he is recalled to invade *Scotland*, where an Agreement { such an one as it was } had been made with His Majesty: Thither *Cromwel* comes, ere it was sufficiently provided to entertain so troublesome and unexpected a Guest.

This, with some intestine feuds among the *Scots* themselves, yielded *Cromwel* a cheap Victory at *Dunbar*, and was the cause of the over-hasty rendition of the impregnable Castle of *Edenburgh*, (not without suspicion of Treachery in the Governor, thereby facilitating *Cromwels* passage into *Fife*, which necessitated His Majesty, before His Affairs were fully settled there, to a disadvantageous

March into *England*, where coming as far as *Worcester*, he was so surrounded, that a Battel was imposed upon him upon most unequall terms, there being no proportion between the multitude of the Rebels, and paucity of the Royall Army.

Notwithstanding the loss of the Day, numerousness of the Pursuers, eagerness in the pursuit, large promised Reward to the Taker or Discoverer, great threatned punishment to the Harbourer, or Concealer, His Majesty most miraculously escapes, which opened a Door of Hope to his Friends, that he was not in vain thus wonderfully preserved, but that there was some greater future Good intended to Him and these Nations than the present face of things did seem to promise or portend.

For, though His Majesty's Person, by His safe getting beyond Sea, was somewhat more secure, yet was there but small visible appearance of strength, either forreign or domestick, whereby He might be suddenly enabled to re-gain His lost Kingdoms; nay, those very slender presumptions which remained of better times, did dayly more and more lessen and decrease, till Divine Providence (which is never wanting to afflicted innocency in its greatest extremity; but alwaies maketh choice of such seasons to manifest its power and goodness in) was pleased to interpose, when all other means had failed, and were vanished into nothing, and bring that to pass by an unthought of Instrument, which humane considerations had rendred improbable, if not impossible to be effected.

It would be superfluous to dwell long upon particulars, which are so fresh in all mens memories, and the only Theme of all Tongues and Pens; how cold a Reception after this great Deliverance His Majesty met withal in the Court of *France*, how unworthily he was dismissed thence; how not invited into the Spanish Territories, till the breach with *Cromwel* was unavoidable, and there rather afforded succour to them, than procured any from them; how His Well-wishers were totally subdued in *Scotland*, and constantly upon every rising betrayed and suppressed in *England*: All which misfortunes, with many others, being laid together, to believe that His Majesty should so soon, and so easily obtain the quiet possession of His Dominions, required a greater portion of Faith, than the World at that time for the Majority was stocked withall.

But among all the Wounds given to the Royal Cause, none pierced deeper than that it received in *Cheshire*, which though it might seeme but as a slight scar in regard of the small quantity of blood that was then drawn, yet by reason of that far greater effusion that was feared would ensue, it was concluded little lesse than mortall, for it is not to be doubted that yet those mercilesse Empiricks (who had once more undertaken the Cure of the Body Politick) had continued in any longer practice they would have so exhausted the vitall spirits (we meane the Nobility and Gentry of the Land, who were for the most part engaged in the designe, though not in the particular Action) that it should have pined away in a most desperate Consumption, and

never have been able to have held up either head or hand again.

Matters being thus in a manner grown helpless, and most men heartless, it is high time for God himselfe to appear in the Bush; which he doth, but not in such a fire as he appeared in unto *Moses* in the Wilderness, which consumed not the Bush, but in such a fire as in *Jothams* Parable, went out of the Bramble and devoured the Cedars of Lebanon; that is, God sent a spirit of division between *Lambert* and the rump-Parliament (for by that contemtable appellation was it commonly called;) so that they are now no less earnest to destroy, than they were lately zealous to build up each others fallen and decayed Interest.

For *Cromwel* had long ago cashiered that infamous Conventicle, and though *Lambert* for a long while after remained an especiall Creature and favorite, yet perceiving, that that office of Protectorship, which he, out of hopes to have been old *Nol's* second, had in its primitive institution been contrived elective, was converted to hereditary, he became discontented thereat, and was discharged of all Civil and Military Employment: But *Oliver* being laid in the dust, & his son *Richard*, like a Puppet, set up in his room, *Lambert* full of indignation and ambition awaited but his first opportunity, to pul downe this painted and Counterfeit Idol, which opportunity soon offered it self in a Parliament of *Richards* calling, where, the Elections having been somewhat freer than formerly, much more of the old English courage was to be discovered, than in any of *Olivers Juntos*, that is, they would not suffer themselves to be over-ruled by

by the dictates of an Imperious Army, whereat the Great Officers took much offence, first Remonstrating against, and then compelling *Richard* to dismiss that comparatively honourable Assembly.

But *Richard's* own Obsequies (as to his mock-dignity) immediately attended this their funeral Pile; and the Relicks of the long (and long forgotten) Parliament were conjured out of the Grave, whither *Oliver* had sent them packing, to be as it were his Administrators, whom all thought so surely dead, and safely buried, that there had been no danger of this no less unlooked for, than unwelcome Resurrection.

This Skeleton, or Carcase of a rotten Parliament, did so stink in the nostrils of all people, that there was a general inclination to be rid of it, but the good intentions for that purpose were in most Counties blasted before they were ripe for execution, onely in *Cheshire*, as hath been hinted, a competent Party embodied themselves, against whom *Lambert* was sent with treble their force, whose puny Conquest over a few forlorn Gentlemen, disheartened through the disappointment of Friends in other places, was termed by one of *Lambert's* Parasiticall Officers in his own presence *A Crowning Mercy*, alluding to *Cromwel's* expression, which he used in his letter to the Speaker after Worcester business: This being passed over by *Lambert* with a kind of an assenting silence, compared with antecedent and ensuing Actions, did clearly evidence that he had the like aspiring project in his pate, and that he accounted not the
thousand

thousand pound bestowed on him, to by him a jewel, by his Masters (in which capacity he was resolved they should not long abide) a sufficient reward for the great paines he had taken in gaining this in it self little, and, abating the consequences, inconsiderable victory.

But General *Monck*, Commander in cheif of *Scotland*, had far other and more generous Resolutions, which found a success answerable to the prudence wherewithall they were managed, for making it the Ground of his proceedings to restore the now a second time ejected Rump-Parliament, and afterwards to complete their imperfect number by readmitting the long ago secluded members; he doth first by Independent assistance dissipate the Anabaptistick and fanaticall Crew, and then by Presbyterian concurrence overthrow the Independents themselves; dexteriously applying the several factions in their order to one anothers ruine, till at last by an inverted Method, as it were, he reduces us to that most happy posture we were in before the begining of this causeless and unnaturall Rebellion.

And now this *Hydra*-Parliament, which had been once before legally by the King's death, and twice violently by tumultuous Souldiery, is now at last finally dissolved by themselves, (a priviledge they had long before extorted, though till now unwilling to make use thereof) and a better chosen in their stead, who at the time appointed (notwithstanding *Lamberts* flash in the interval, which proved but as lightning before death) convened, and according to their duty did forthwith proclaim their undoubted Sovereign, and sent Commis-

Commissioners to invite him home to the Exercise of his Regal Government; which hath filled our mouths with laughter and our hearts with mirth, and occasioned the composing of this little Treatise, the Author having no other mite whereby he might testify his particular contentment in the midst of so publick and universal rejoycing.

But the Reader is to be advertised that this unfortunate *Embrio* (conceived between His Majesty's being voted and coming in) laboured far longer under the Press than under the Pen, and when with much ado it had been produced, it was so deformed and mis-shapen, that a resolution was once taken to have stifled it in the birth, and never to have permitted such a disfigured brat to have seen the light; but upon second thoughts it hath liberty to wander abroad, not out of any foolish fancy that it will finde acceptance, but out of a consideration that it will be no greater cruelty to expose it to the wide world, than to suffer it to perish in a private Study.

And yet to make some satisfaction for former errors and delay, we shall now add what hath hitherto been wholly omitted, or but superficially glanced at; to wit, His Majesty's extraction from the *Scotish*, and what is chiefest, from the *Brittish* Race, that of the *Saxon* and *Norman* having been the principal, if not sole subject of the precedent discourse.

The *Scots*, according to their best Historians, came originally out of *Ireland* about 300 years before the Incarnation of our blessed Saviour, under the conduct of *Fergus* the first, who was also King there (which if so, then hath our King, lineally descended

scended from that *Fergus*, a better Title than that of bare modern Conquest, even unto that Kingdome) and possessed themselves of the North-western parts of *Brittany* : And it is remarkable, that notwithstanding a Custome begun in the very Infancy of their State, and continued about a thousand years, that if the Son, which frequently happened, were under age at the Fathers death, the next of the blood-Royal should be, not Guardian, but King, not only during the minority of the Orphan, but even during his own natural life, whereby these Tenants *pur vie* had too fair, or rather too foul, opportunities to change their manner of hold into fee-simple ; yet did the true Proprietor, though for a while disseised, still recover his patrimonial right, as may be made evident out of *Buchanan* himself, who was yet a greater friend to an Elective, than Hereditary succession.

Kenneth the third, and *Malcolm* the second were the first Alterers of this suspicious Custome, Ordaining, that from thence-forward Children should succeed their Parents immediately, and have only Governors (such as the Parents in their life time should appoint) to oversee them and their Kingdome, until they attained their maturity, whence it came to pass, that for the future interruptions were much rarer, the regular course of Nature more duly observed, and a greater restraint put into the Practisers of aspiring and ambitious kindred.

Nevertheless, *Machbeth*, Grandson to *Malcolm* the second, though but by his youngest Daughter, invaded the Sovereignty, and having murdered the

the lawful King *Donald* related to the said *Malcolm* in an equal propinquity, and that by the eldest Daughter (*Beatrice*,) did for a while usurp, but he was expelled and slain by *Macduffe Thane*, or Earl of *Fife*, and *Malcolm* the third, Son of *Donald*, installed in his Fathers Throne. This is that *Malcolm*, who as he found refuge in the English Court, under the Protection of *Edward* the Confessor, when he was forced to withdraw himself from *Macbeth's* persecution; so did he afford the like succour in the Scottish to the Confessor's Nephew *Edgar Etheling*, when he was driven out of his Countrey by *William* the Conqueror, and took his Sister and Heir *Margaret* to Wife, by whom he had a Daughter named *Maud*, who being married to *Henry*, the Conquerors Son, was, as hath been before declared, the Bond whereby the *Saxon* and *Norman* Line were connected and entwisted together.

But we cannot dissemble what few take notice of, to wit, that the better, that is, the more Masculine Bloud-Royal of the *Saxon* Race (which in comparison of the *Norman*, though both founded in Conquest, was much to be preferred, by reason of its much elder prescription) did still reside in the House of *Scotland*: For, *Margaret* bare to *Malcolm* (besides that Daughter *Maud*) three Sons, *Edgar*, *Alexander*, and *David*, who (to pass over the Intrusion of *Donald* the Brother, and *Duncan* the Bastard of *Malcolm*, because each did soon expire) were all Kings in their Order, but only *David* had Issue, from whom the Kings of *Scotland* have ever since, however they have alwayes abstained from their

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claim

claim to the *English* Crown upon that account, derived an undoubted and not to be disputed descent.

Henry (*David's* only Son) departed this life before his Father, but left three Sons behind him, *Malcolm, William* and *David*, (which last was Earl of *Huntington* in *England*) whereof *Malcolm* the 4. succeeded his Grandfather, him being childless his Brother *William*, him his Son *Alexander* the second, him his Son *Alexander* the third, and him should have his Grandaughter *Margaret*, who was bred in, and sent for out of *Norway*, but that she died before her arrival on the *Scottish* Coasts.

And now (the rest being extinct) recourse must be had to the Off-spring of the late mentioned Earl of *Huntington*, when, lo, two Grand Competitors appear, *John Baliol*, who fetches his stock from the eldest Daughter (*Margaret*,) and *Robert Bruce* who confessedly came from the younger (*Isabel*;) but alledges, that he is in a nearer degree of Consanguinity to Earl *David*, than the other either did, or could pretend himself to be.

The Controversie, in regard of the Potency of both Parties, being not capable of a decision at home without the danger of a Civil War, it was referred to *Edward* the first, King of *England*, who rather brought Oyl to encrease, than Water to quench the flame, and was resolved to bestow it on him only, who would profess homage, and swear fealty unto the *English* Crown.

To this Imperious demand, *Baliol*, though conceived Superior in Title, yet proving meaner in Spirit,

Spirit, did readily condescend, which *Bruse*, whose Plea was thought weaker, but Courage found greater, did utterly refuse to assent unto.

Whereupon *Edward* pronounces sentence on *Baliol*'s side, who is acknowledged King by many of the *Scotish* Nobility, but rather out of fear of *Edward*'s power, than any satisfaction or delight they took in this dishonourable, and as they esteemed it, unworthy submission.

Yea, *Baliol* himself doth soon repent of it, and bids defiance to *Edward*, who now afresh cajols *Bruse*, urging the performance of promises; he returned a scornfull Negative: *As if*, saies he, *we had nothing else to do, than to conquer Kingdoms for you to enjoy.*

Baliol at last surrenders himself unto *Edward*, and is by him sent Prisoner into *England*, and there detained until the Pope's Intercession and Engagement that he should create no further trouble in *Scotland*, he is released, and retires into *France*, where having resigned his whole right to his Cousin *Bruse*, he spends the remainder of his days in a more quiet and contented estate.

But *Robert Bruse* (Son of *Robert* the Author of the Contention, which he lived not to see finished) was little pleased with Eenglish *Edward*'s fishing in disturbed streams, and therefore he sets up trading for himself, at first with smal probability of thriving, but afterwards he caught the prey whereat he aimed, which was almost ravished out of the mouth of his Infant-Son *David*, by *Edward Baliol*, Son of that *John*, who had once renounced it; but it was again

rescued by *Robert Stuart* the Vice-roy; and *Balior* with his Issue, if he had any, failing, the *Brusians* became legal Owners of that Kingdom, whereinto at the beginning they seemed to have made but a violent and forcible entry.

Robert Stuart (even now remembred) was *David's* Sister's Son, and consequently his Heir, he having no Children of his own; but *David*, notwithstanding old benefits, upon some new displeasure, was inclinable to have put him by, had he not been over-perswaded by the Nobility, who were as well sensible of *Robert's* worth, as that his Grandfather *Robert* the first had, before his Son *David* was born, designed him to the Kingdom; Nay, the Fates themselves, if credit be to be given to some *Scottish* Chronicles, had long ago destined no less: for, they report, that *Macbeth* (the after Tyrant) and *Banco* (one of *Robert's* Progenitors) walking in a Wood, encountred with three Women of more than humane aspect, who saluted *Macbeth*, then a private person, King of *Scotland*; whereat when *Banco* shewed himself aggrieved, they told him that *Macbeth* should only be King himself, which presently came to pass, but that the succession was reserved for ~~his~~ Posterity, which, though somewhat with the slowest, is now at length exactly fulfilled.

For, this *Robert* was the Son of *Walter*, the Son of *John*, the Son of *Alexander*, the Son of *Walter*, the Son of *Alexander*, the Son of *Alan*, the Son of *Walter Stuart*, (the first of that Surname and Office in *Scotland*) the Son of *Fleance*, the Son of *Banco*, whom

whom *Macbeth*, to defeat the Prediction, slew, and sought to do the like to his Son *Fleance*, who prevented his bloody intentions by fleeing into *Wales*, and there, as it hath already been touched in gross, he married *Nest* (by whom he had that first and famous *Walter*) the Daughter of *Giffith ap Llewelyn*, the Son of *Angharad*, the Daughter and Heir of *Meredith*, the Son of *Owen*, the Son of *Howel Dha*, the Son of *Cadelb*, the Son of *Rodri Mawr*, the Son of *Esfylht*, the Daughter and Heir of *Conan Tyn-daithwy*, the Son of *Rodri Moelwynog*, the Son of *Edwall Twrch*, the Son of *Cadwallader*, last King of *Brittany*, and first of *Wales*, beyond whom, in point of pedigree, we dare not wander; but must here erect our Pillars, and fix our *Ne plus ultra*, lest by wading further we should be swallowed up in the vast Abyss of an unbounded and fathomless Ocean.

And here we might likewise put a period to the whole Tract, as having traced this *Robert's* lineage in the *Brittish* Story, as far as with any confidence we can well proceed; and being able with much more ease and assurance to resolve our present Sovereign's into his (for *Charles* the second is the Son of *Charles* the first, the Son of *James* the sixth, the Son of *Mary*, the Daughter and Heir of *James* the fourth, the Son of *James* the third, the Son of *James* the second, the Son of *James* the first, the Son of *John*, whose name upon the Assumption of the Kingdom was converted into *Robert* the third, the Son of the aforesaid *Robert* the second, &c.) but that it is demurred by some :

First,

He got her with child, for when he was put to death but never married this false son - Walter was afterwards slain - in Scotland, for whom descended the Kings of Scotland of that Name to this day. Hist. de Penet. de Wales. Sec.

First, Whether *Nest* (*Walter's Mother*) were an Heir, or no?

2. Admitting that she were, whether her Ancestor *Cadelh* were the eldest Son of *Rodri Mawr*, who being King of all *Wales*, was the first that did make a partition thereof?

George Owen Harry in a Book entituled [*The Genealogy of the high and mighty Monarch James by the Grace of God King of Great Brittain, &c.*] Printed 1604. favours *Cadelh* with the first Colume among *Rodri's* Sons; but *D. Powel* in his Chronicle written before, and taken out of most Authentick Records, is peremptory in vindicating the Birth-right to *Anarawd* Prince of *Northwales*, and maintaining, that though his two Brothers, *Cadelh* Prince of *Southwales*, and *Merwyn* Prince of *Powis* were sharers in the Inheritance, yet did they hold from him and his Children (or ought so to have done) as from Lords Paramount; and therefore we must only adhere to *Anarawd's* line, and wave his Majesties descent from all other Princes of *Wales*, which were either but Usurpers, or at the best but of the youngest House, and Vassals and Homagers to the Princes of *Northwales*.

In doing this we shall begin before the Fraction, even with *Cadwallader* himself, and so by *Anarawd* come down to his Majesty, not meddling with Intruders upon any other score, than as we have hitherto done; to wit, to shew that sometimes such there were by God's permission, but never intended for perpetuity, the succession always in the end (these Imposters notwithstanding) revolving to the genuine and legitimate Heir.

Cadwal-

Cadwallader, then surnamed *Bendigaid*, or the Blessed, having lost the greatest part of his Kingdom to the *Saxons*, did, by the perswasion of his Cousin *Alan* King of *Little Brittain*, betake himself to *Rome*, and there lived and died in God's Service, bequeathing to his Posterity the fore-recited Prophecy, *That they should one day be Masters of his whole Isle again*: But *Ivor* the Son of *Alan* governed next after him, his own Son *Edwall Twrch*, that is, the *Roe*, being unable, or unwilling to divert the Helm in such turbulent and tempestuous weather.

Yet did his Son *Rodri-Moel-Wynog* undertake it, and left it to his Son *Conan Tyndaithwy*, whose Daughter *Esfylt* was his Heir; but she knowing how unfit feminine shoulders were to sustain so great a burthen in those Martial times, took to Husband a Noble Prince *Mervyn Urych*, by whom she had *Rodri Mawr*, or *Roderick* the Great, who more consulting private affection than Reason of State, made that unpollitick Division of *Wales*, which being united, was scarce able to defend it self against the Invasions of the *Saxons*, their implacable and continually encroaching Neighbors.

Now though much of the Demean were defalcated from *Anarawd* by his Father *Rodri*, yet did the Fee and Chiefship remain to him and his, which his Brother *Gadelb* did sparingly enough acknowledge, and his Son *Howel* less; for he not onely withdraws his Allegiance for *Southwales*, but after the death of *Edwal Voel*, the son of *Anarawd*, seizes upon *Northwales* it self: yet is he commonly stiled *Dha*, or the Good, not certainly for such undue acquisitions

quisitions and unjust detentions., but for the excellent Laws he made, a thing not unusually practised by those who have less of equity on their side to warrant their ill-gotten and unlawfull Possessions.

Howel Dha being dead the Principality returned to *Jevaf* and *Jago*, the Sons indeed, but yet but the yongest Sons of *Edwal Voel*, no respect being had by them of their elder Brother *Meyric*, whose Son *Edwall* nevertheless obtained it, having waited the leisure not only of *Howel* and *Cadwalban*, the sons of *Jago*, but also of *Meredith ap Owen ap Howel Dha*, who followed his Grandfathers steps, and committed a second Rape upon *Northwales*, herein the more excusable, that he took it from one who had himself no other plea, than that of force and extortion thereunto.

But *Edwall ap Meyric* having, after the exercise of some patience, gained what his Father was injuriously deprived of, left both his bad and good Fortune to his son *Jago*, or *James*, viz. to the defrauded for a while, by an Abator, or two (*Aedan ap Blegared* and *Llewelyn ap Sitsylht*) but afterwards to recover his Paternal Right; which yet he doth not long enjoy, but loses it, with his life, to *Gryffith ap Lewelyn ap Sitsylht*; and his Son *Conan* (to preserve his life) is forced to flee into *Ireland*, where marrying with *Ranulht*, Daughter of *Alfred* King of *Dublyn*, he had by her a Son called *Gryffith*, who will be found another *Medium*, besides that of *Fergus*, whereby more of the Irish Bloud-Royal is transmitted into His Majesty's most Princely veins.

And

And if, as doubtless it will be, it be objected, that neither of these foundations are of sufficient strength to build a claim to a Kingdome upon, it not appearing that *Fergus* or *Alfred* were Kings of *Ireland* entirely, but supposed to be of parcels only; or that *Ranulph*, *Alfred's* Daughter was also his Heir: Our Answer is, that we do not lay the whole stress of our King's Interest to that Kingdom upon such weak and infirm undersetters; but affirm, that the most considerable part of the Inhabitants, as *English*, *Scotch*, *Welsh*, are undoubtedly His Majesty's natural Leiges; and as for the original Natives, whom Conquest hath made Subjects; this however seemingly imperfect Title joyned with that, obliges them to continue so; especially seeing it is such a Conquest as hath been confirmed by more Centuries of years, than those within the compass of which *Jephtha* demanded of the *Ammonitish* King, why he had not all that while recovered his now too late challenged Land: And as concerning the Title it self, as bad as it is, a better it is presumed cannot be produced by any pretender whatsoever.

But to return from our digression (*Ireland* lying somewhat out of our Road, which is principally confined to Great *Brittain*) Prince *Gryffith ap Conan ap Jago*, with the assistance of the Irish, reprieves that Countrey which properly belonged to him, out of the Talons of *Trabern ap Caradoc*, the last of the Usurpers, there having been since *Jago's* death no fewer than four, to wit, *Gryffith ap Llewelyn ap Sisfylht*, he that ejected and killed *Jago*,

Blethyn ap Conwyn, his Brother *Rywalban* and this *Trabern*, whom *Gryffith* the lawfull Heir slew at the battel of *Carnarvan*, and after a long and prosperous Reign had this felicity superadded to his former, that his eldest Son *Owen* was his Successor, which happened not to *Owen* himself, but his first-born *Jorwerth Drwyndwn*, upon a pitiful Cavil that he had a deformity in his nose (which his surname doth import) was laid aside, and his younger Brother *David* preferred before him.

Yet did that most noble and valiant Prince *Llewelyn*, the Son of *Jorwerth Drwyndwn* dispossess his usurping Uncle *David*, and not content to have repaired late losses, proceeds to resume former alienations, by reannexing to his Territories those several fragments of *Wales*, which the weakness or improvidence of his Predecessors had suffered to be pared away from their already too slender and scanty Dominions.

And here two waies offering themselves to bring us to our journeys end, we are at a stand which to elect, that of *Mortimer's*, or of *Owen Tudor's* Race: We have indeed engaged in the beginning of the progress to prosecute that of Sir *Owen Tudor's*; but an unexpected rub hath fallen out in our passage, which we did not fore-see when we made that promise, viz. that *Gryffith ap Llewelyn* (the Father of *Llewelyn ap Gryffith*, the last Prince of *Wales*, the Father of *Catherine*, the Mother of *Eleonor*, the Mother of *Margaret*, the Mother of *Meredith*, the Father of Sir *Owen*) was but the base Son of *Llewelyn ap Jorwerth ap Drwyndwn*, and therefore his attempt

tempt to drive out his lawfully begotten Brother *David*, was altogether lawless, as likewise was his son *Llewelyn's* keeping out *Gulladys Dhy* (or the Black) the Sister and Heir of *David*, because she was married to an English man, namely, Sir *Ralph Mortimer*, Lord of *Wigmore*, by whom he had *Roger Mortimer*, the Father of *Edmond* the Father of *Roger*, the Father of *Edmond*, the Father of *Roger*, the Father of that *Edmond* who married *Philippa* the Daughter and sole Heir of *Lionell Duke of Clarence*, third Son of King *Edward* the third, and by her had that *Roger*, from whom to make another deduction to His Majesty, would be but an idle repetition of what hath been already declared, and is obvious to every one that hath but heard of the great Controversie between the *Turkish* and *Lancastrian* House.

But be it how it will, whether *Mortimer*, or *Tudor's* Right be the firmest, certain it is, that both these different lines do centre in the same point, wherein the *Roses* met, and from thence, like *Rivolets* that have formerly been divided, do unitedly flow unto His Majesty; so that he need not (as the French do) sodder up a broken Title with a devised Law salique repugnant to the Law of Nature, or use so poor an evasion, as the King of *Spain* is said to do, when the Duke of *Medina Sidonia* once in a generation tenders a Customary Petition to have the Kingdom delivered up unto him as his due, the Answer is, that the place is already full; but may dare the whole World to shew a more unexceptionable claim than his, unto the Imperial Crown

Crown he now wears : And long may it flourish
upon his head, and the head of his Posterity, even
unto the end of the World. And let all the People
say Amen.

FINIS.

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